

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANTIA 04708 071717Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3850

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 4708

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SEC REGERS FROM AMB POPPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CI, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S CONCERNS RE U.S. MILITARY SALES TO
CHILE

REF: STATE 158512

1. GENERAL PINOCHET IS IN ARICA, AND DEFENSE MINISTER
GENERAL BRADY IN PUNTA ARENAS, SO I SAW CHIEF OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE STAFF GENERAL ARELLANO MORNING JULY 7 TO PASS ON
VERY HELPFUL INTERIM RESPONSE CONTAINED YOUR REFTEL. ARELLANO
SAID HE WOULD COMMUNICATE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT I SAID TO
PINOCHET BY TELEPHONE.

2. ARELLANO WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED AT OUR PROMPT RESPONSE.
HE AGAIN EXPRESSED CHILE'S ANXIETIES RE CONCENTRATION OF
PERUVIAN TANKS IN SOUTHERN ZONE OF PERU. ADDED THAT CHILEANS
HAD NOW HEARD USG WAS GOING TO DELIVER TWO SUBMARINES OF
GUPPY TYPE TO PERU NEXT DECEMBER OR JANUARY, AND THAT THIS
WOULD FURTHER UNBALANCE FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. (I REMARKED
WE HAD RECENTLY GIVEN CHILE TWO DESTROYERS.) BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC
STRINGENCY, CHILEANS WERE SHORT OF CASH FOR MILITARY PURCHASES;
HENCE THEIR INTEREST IN FMS CREDITS STILL OUTSTANDING.

3. ARELLANO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT I WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH
CHILEANS WITH FULLEST POSSIBLE INFORMATION, ON MY RETURN

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 04708 071717Z

FROM U.S.

POPPER

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NNN

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